

Message Text

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22-11

ACTION TRSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9263

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 0586

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (SIMON, WILLIAM)

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL TRAVEL OF SECRETARY SIMON

REF: STATE 009107

1. WELCOME PROPOSED VISIT SECRETARY SIMON. SINCE FAHMY, NOT PRIMIN SALEM, IS HEAD OF EGYPTIAN SIDE OF JOINT COMMISSION, HAVE SOUNDED OUT MFA RE DATES. PRELIMINARY REACTION IS DATES AGREEABLE AND THAT WE CAN PLAN ACCORDINGLY. FORMAL GOE HOST HAS NOT YET BEEN DETERMINED, BUT IS LIKELY TO BE MINFINANCE ABU ISMAIL OR ONE OF THE ECONOMIC MINISTERS.

2. SO FAR AS WE CAN TELL, PRESIDENT SADAT WILL BE IN CAIRO MARCH 6-7. THERE SHOULD BE NO PROBLEM ARRANGING MEETING WITH HIM. MEETINGS WITH PRIMIN SALEM AND DEPPRIMIN/FONMIN FAHMY WILL ALSO BE ARRANGED.

3. WOULD BE HELP HAVE SOONEST SOME PRECISE INDICATION EXACTLY HOW MANY ROOMS WILL BE REQUIRED BY SECRETARY'S PARTY. MARCH IS STILL HEAVY TOURIST SEASON IN BOTH LUXOR AND CAIRO AND EGYPTIANS HAVE EXPRESSED SOME CONCERN ABOUT ACCOMMODATING SUCH LARGE PARTY. FOR OBVIOUS REASONS THEY ARE RELUCTANT CANCEL ONGSTANDING RESERVATIONS. SINCE NEW WINTER PALACE IN LUXOR HAS NO SUITES PER SE, WE WILL HAVE TO ARRANGE TWO ADJOINING ROOMS FOR SECRETARY SIMON IN LIEU OF SUITE.

4. ALSO REQUIRE FISCAL DATA TO PERMIT HIRING OF
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NECESSARY TRANSPORT FOR BOTH LUXOR AND CAIRO. PROPOSE

SEND OFFICER TO LUXOR FEW DAYS BEFORE ARRIVAL THERE
OF SECRETARY'S PARTY IN ORDER MAKE ARRANGEMENTS.

5. SUBSTANTIVELY, EGYPTIAN EXPECTATIONS WILL BE
HIGH THAT SECRETARY SIMON WILL BE BRINING SOME NEW
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. SECRETARY SHOULD EXPECT TO BE
HIT, AT HIGH GOE LEVEL, WITH REQUEST FOR USG ASSISTANCE
IN AGAIN PASSING HAT AMONG WESTERN DONORS AND JAPAN
FOR EMERGENCY RELIEF FOR EGYPT IN CY '76 AND FOR HELP
IN CONVERTING EGYPT'S HIGH INTEREST, SHORT-TERM OBLI-
GATIONS INTO MEDIUM-TERM OBLIGATIONS WITH LOWER RATES OF
INTEREST. FAHMY HAS ALREADY ASKED FOR OUR HELP ON FIRST
POINT, WHILE PRESIDENT SADAT REPEATEDLY MAKES SECOND.
EILTS

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